



SUPPORT TO ORURO

Through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Government has a comprehensive assistance program that supports the Bolivian Government's National Development Plan.



The sweet onion export program, supported by the Valleys Foundation, the Oruro departmental government, and USAID, has helped producers substantially increase incomes by selling their products to international markets.

Through its official foreign assistance agency, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. government supports development in 12 municipalities in the department of Oruro. Projects seek to reduce poverty through economic growth generated by enterprise development and increased productivity; improve access to health care for the poor; and strengthen democratic processes and institutions. USAID programs create opportunities for marginalized populations while promoting their social, political and economic inclusion.

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL FARMERS

Some of Bolivia's poorest municipalities are located in the Department of Oruro. With the cooperation of local governments, civil society organizations such as the Valleys Foundation (*Fundación Valles*) and producers' associations such as the firm *Bolivia Produce*, USAID supports 150 families producing organic sweet onions for export. The first shipment of this product resulted in close to \$US 100,000 in sales, of which 30% was net profit for producers in the Alantañita and Pasto Grande communities, where incomes have risen by 250% as a result.

In 2006, 12 institutions – including small farmer groups, marketing firms, and USAID – joined together to form the Quinoa Alliance, to increase the production of organic quinoa from 5,000 to 30,000 tons annually; improve land management and quinoa processing; and link this improved production to higher paying export markets. The initiative is leading to important increases in incomes for indigenous farmers in Potosí and Oruro.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF BOLIVIANS

USAID seeks to improve the health of underserved Bolivians by increasing access to quality health services through the strengthening public and NGO health facilities and networks. Our program supports the Ministry of Health's policy of extending services to rural areas, with a special focus on family and community health.

USAID funds local NGOs to implement programs for maternal-child health and the prevention and control of infectious diseases. Through partnerships with organizations such as CIES, programs such as Partners for Development, and a PROSALUD clinic located in the southern part of Oruro providing emergency medical attention 24 hours a day, USAID is helping to improve health conditions among the population of Oruro.

EFFECTIVE DEPARTMENTAL GOVERNMENTS

With the democratic election of departmental governments in 2005, Bolivia moved further toward accountable, decentralized government. As it does worldwide, USAID is providing technical assistance in basic institutional strengthening and training to Bolivia's departmental governments to help them assume more effectively their new roles in planning, financing, and delivering services to citizens. In Oruro, USAID helps the prefecture promote local economic development and deconcentrate public investments and services.

USAID in ORURO

Municipalities where at least one USAID Project is Active

